Fourthly, the Karakal *thodu* was another long pending request of the people. The P. W. D. and the Revenue authorities could not meet and settle the boundary line and that was a serious handicap to the progress of the work. The department had estimated Rs. 3,000 for the work, while the Member offered to carry it out for Rs. 2,000, which had been accepted by Government.

In regard to the Thiruvalla-Mallapalli road, the Member had received a letter from the local P. W. D. authorities saying that they had not understood the position of the road. It should also be carried out as early as possible. It was only 8 miles long. The present was the best time to cut the road. A surveyor should be deputed to survey the line of the road.

Another requirement that had been brought up several times was the condition of the Thiruvalla-Mavelikara road where five bridges had to be constructed. One at least might be finished each year. If the road could be provided with the five bridges, the distance from Mavelikara to Thiruvalla could be reduced by 5 miles.

Regarding the condition of the village roads in the town of Thiruvalla, the Member submitted that the cost of maintenance was Rs. 17 per mile. He regretted to state that no money was being spent at all out of the maintenance funds with the result that all the village roads were in a most deplorable state. The Member requested that either the funds might be transferred to the T. I. C. or entrusted to the people.

Dewan's reply.—In regard to the Thondara bridge, action is being taken to proceed with the reconstruction of the bridge as early as practicable. There is no idea of a temporary bridge. Orders will issue for the removal of the mud-bank complained of by the Member. Arrangements will be made for the settlement of the line of the Karakal *thodu* as also for the survey of the line for the Thiruvalla-Mallapalli road. The other points in the Member's representation will also receive attention.

78. Means of communication in the eastern *pakuthies* of the Thiruvalla taluk with special reference to (1) Poovanakadavu—Cherukolpuzha road, (2) Puramattam—Mallapalli road, (3) Mallapalli road and (4) the road from Nedumkunnam Church to Anikad in Kallupara *pakuthi*.

Mr. K. Govinda Pillai (Member, Thiruvalla taluk) submitted that many representations had been made before about the first road and that lands had been acquired for 3 miles. The land acquisition proceedings had to be closed for 4 miles more. The people had done the work over 3 miles which should be maintained by Government. In regard to the second road, the Member said that it was opened by the Dewan. It should be made useful for cart traffic and maintained by the P. W. D. The necessity for item No. 3, *i. e.*, the Mallapalli road, was pressed and the Member added that for the last few years there had been no maintenance at all. Out of Rs. 900, not one cash was being spent. If the boulder of rock in that road be removed and the maintenance carried out properly every year, the road would be very useful. Lastly, the road from Nedumkunnam Church to Anikad in Kallupara *pakuthi* was very useful and should be maintained by the P. W. D. No culverts or bridges were necessary.

Dewan's reply.—A sum of Rs. 57,600 has been sanctioned for the first road and Rs. 10,000 allotted for this year. Two sections of the second road have been taken up by the P. W. D. and the Chief Engineer has been asked to report whether the remaining section could not be also taken over. The other points in the Member's representation are noted.

79. Means of communication in the Thiruvalla taluk.

Mr. V. S. Krishna Pillai (Member, Thiruvalla taluk) endorsed the representations already made on the subject of means of communication in the Thiruvalla taluk and observed that no other part of Travancore was so much in need as their taluk. He only referred to the complaints made already and requested that early action might be taken to relieve their sufferings. He then spoke about the need for the improvement of the Thiruvalla—Mepral road, which had been favourably reported upon by their Dewan Peishkar (the late Mr. Mahadeva Iyer) and included in the P.W. programme. He also pressed on the attention of Government the necessity of putting

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up the bridges on the Mavelikara—Thiruvalla road. The Member also submitted that the construction of the Thiruvalla—Mallapalli road by the people was being delayed owing to the route not being surveyed.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

80. Desirability for the Thumpaman—Kozhencheri road and the Pandalam—Aranmula road being taken over by Government.

Mr. S. Padmanabha Panikkar (Member, Nominated) submitted that his request was old and had been made from 1089. The people had finished both the roads and what remained was that they should be taken over and maintained by Government with the necessary culverts. A bridge was necessary on the latter road. He also requested that a Police Station should be established near the Sri Mula Vilasom market at Elavanthitta where a cattle fair was also being held every month.

Dewan's reply.—The road has not the required width, *viz.*, 42 feet, throughout its length. The Dewan Peishkar, Quilon, has been asked to ascertain and report whether the people of the localities are prepared to give over sufficient lands to make up the required width. Further action has to be taken on receipt of his report.

Member.—The people would be willing to surrender the required lands.

Dewan.—The Member will do well to meet the Peishkar on the subject. Estimates are being prepared for the culverts.

81. Conversion of the trace from Thamarakulam to Azhikal market *via* Oachira, into a road.

Mr. K. Velayudhan Panikkan (Member, Nominated) said that the members of the Araya community whose occupation was coir-making and fishing were being put to much hardship on account of the want of a good road for the transport of coir and fish to the other parts of the State. As a result of the representations they had been making from 1060, they were given the Sri Mula Madhavapuram market in 1080. Still they were in a most pitiable condition. It was impossible for them to live on their industry, as no outlets were available for the sale of their articles, which were greatly in demand elsewhere. The conversion of the trace from Thamarakulam to Azhikal market *via* Oachira, into a road would open up a new field for their living.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

82. Means of communication in the Shertallay taluk.

Mr. Vinamsi Thomas (Member, Shertallay taluk) complained about the sufferings of the taluk on account of want of means of communication. His first request was that a *thodu* should be opened from the western end of the Vadai Canal northwards as far as Kunjithai. The whole line of the *thodu* was studded with detached sheets of water called *pozhis* which had to be linked up so as to form a continuous canal. If the Government could not cut the *thodu*, the people were prepared to do the work, if the lands were acquired and handed over to them with a grant to be distributed over three years. If the *thodu* could be completed, it would enable other cross canals being cut in the taluk and means of communication would thus be rendered very easy. The second requirement of the taluk was the metalling of the road from Alleppey to Shertallay and from the latter place to Arur *via* Kuthiathodu. It was now covered by sand knee-deep. The roads from Shertallay to Thanneermukkam and Kunjithai should also be metalled. Trees also should be grown on either side of the roads to afford protection to the people from the heat of the sun which was unbearable on account of the sandy nature of the place. In conclusion, the Member submitted that, even if a light railway as proposed be constructed, it would not be of much use in the matter of inter-communication from one village to another in the taluk. Small canals and roads would even then be necessary in the interests of trade and of the people.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

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